

LIB

Before they did oppress the people, only by colour of a *lewd* custom, they did afterwards use the same oppressions by warrant. *Davies on Ireland.*

3. Lufful; libidinous.

He is not lolling on a *lewd* love bed,

But on his knees at meditation. *Shakespeare's Rich. III.*

Then *lewd* Anehemolus he laid in dust,

Who stain'd his stepdam's bed with impious lust. *Dryden.*

LE'WDLY. *adj.* [from *lewd*.]

1. Wickedly; naughtily.

A sort of naughty persons, *lewdly* bent,

Have practis'd dangerously against your state. *Shakespeare.*

2. Libidinally; lustfully.

He lov'd fair lady Elfred, *lewdly* lov'd,

Whose wanton pleasures him too much did please,

That quite his heart from Guendeline remov'd. *Spenser.*

So *lewdly* dull his idle works appear,

The wretched texts deserve no comments here. *Dryden.*

LE'WDNESS. *n. f.* [from *lewd*.] Lustful licentiousness.

Suffer no *lewdness*, nor indecent speech,

Th' apartment of the tender youth to reach. *Dryd. Juu.*

Damianus's letter to Nicholas is an authentick record of the *lewdness* committed under the reign of cellbacy. *Atterbury.*

LE'WDSTER. *n. f.* [from *lewd*.] A lecher; one given to criminal pleasures.

Against such *lewdsters*, and their lechery,

Those that betray them do no treachery. *Shakespeare.*

LE'WTS D'OR. *n. f.* [French.] A golden French coin, in value twelve livres, now settled at seventeen shillings. *Dict.*

LEXICOGRAPHY. *n. f.* [ἡ λεξικὴ and γράφω; *lexicographie*, French.] A writer of dictionaries; a harmless drudge, that busies himself in tracing the original, and detailing the signification of words.

Commentators and *lexicographers* acquainted with the Syriac language, have given these hints in their writings on scripture. *Watts's Improvement of the Mind.*

LEXICOGRAPHY. *n. f.* [ἡ λεξικὴ and γράφω.] The art or practice of writing dictionaries.

LEXICON. *n. f.* [ἡ λεξικὴ.] A dictionary; a book teaching the signification of words.

Though a linguist should pride himself to have all the tongues that Babel cleft the world into, yet if he had not studied the solid things in them as well as the words and *lexicons*, yet he were nothing so much to be esteemed a learned man as any yeoman competently wise in his mother dialect only. *Milton.*

LEY. *n. f.*

Ley, *lee*, *lay*, are all from the Saxon *leag*, a field or pasture, by the usual melting of the letter *g* or *g*. *Gilson's Cam.*

LI'ABLE. *n. f.* [from *liar*, from *liar*, old French.] Obnoxious; not exempt; subject.

But what is strength without a double share

Of wisdom? vast, unwieldy, burthenous,

Proudly secure, yet *liable* to fall

By weakest subtleties. *Milton's Aeneid.*

The English boast of Spenser and Milton, who neither of them wanted genius or learning; and yet both of them are *liable* to many censures. *Dryden's Juvenal.*

This, or any other scheme, coming from a private hand, might be *liable* to many defects. *Swift.*

LIAR. *n. f.* [from *lie*.] This word would analogically be *liar*; but this orthography has prevailed, and the convenience of distinction from *liar*, he who lies down, is sufficient to confirm it. One who tells falsehood; one who wants veracity.

She's like a *liar*, gone to burning hell!

'Twas I that kill'd her. *Shakespeare's Othello.*

He approves the common *liar*, fame,

Who speaks him thus at Rome. *Shakespeare's Ant. and Cleop.*

I do not reject his observation as untrue, much less condemn the person himself as a *liar*, whensoever it seems to be contradicted. *Boyle.*

Thy better soul abhors a *liar's* part,

Wife is thy voice, and noble is thy heart. *Pope's Odyssey.*

LI'ARD. *adj.*

1. Mingled roan.

2. *Liard* in Scotland denotes gray-haired; as, he's a *liard* old man.

LIBA'TION. *n. f.* [libatio, Latin.]

1. The act of pouring wine on the ground in honour of some deity.

In digging new earth pour in some wine, that the vapour of the earth and wine may comfort the spirits, provided it be not taken for a heathen sacrifice, or *libation* to the earth. *Bacon's Natural History.*

2. The wine so poured.

They had no other crime to object against the Christians, but that they did not offer up *libations*, and the smoke of sacrifices, to dead men.

The goblet then she took, with nectar crown'd,

Sprinkling the first *libations* on the ground. *Dryden's Æn.*

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LI'BEARD. *n. f.* [libard, German; leopardus, Lat.] A leopard.

Make the *libard* stern,

Leave roaring, when in rage he for revenge did yearn. *Spenser's Fairy Queen, l. i.*

The *libard*, and the tiger, as the mole

Rising, the crumbled earth above them threw. *Milton.*

The torrid parts of Africa are by Pilo resembled to a *libard's* skin, the distance of whose spots represent the different of habitations, or towns of Africa. *Brerewood.*

LI'BEL. *n. f.* [libellus, Latin; libelle, French.]

1. A satire; defamatory writing; a lampoon.

Are we reproached for the name of Christ? that ignominy serves but to advance our future glory; every such *libel* here becomes panegyric there. *Decay of Piety.*

Good heav'n! that fots and knaves should be so vain,

To wish their vile resemblance may remain!

And stand recorded, at their own request,

To wish their vile resemblance may remain! *Dryden.*

2. [In the civil law.] A declaration or charge in writing against a person in court.

To LI'BEL. *v. n.* [from the noun.] To spread defamation; generally written or printed.

Sweet scrawls to fly about the streets of Rome:

What's this but *libelling* against the senate? *Shakespeare.*

He, like a privilege'd spy, whom nothing can

Discredit, *libels* now 'gainst each great man. *Donne.*

To LI'BEL. *v. a.* To satirise; to lampoon;

Is then the peevish of England any thing dishonoured when a peer suffers for his treason? if he be *libelled*, or any way defamed, he has his scandalum magnatum to punish the offender. *Dryden.*

But what so pure which envious tongues will spare?

Some wicked wits have *libelled* all the fair. *Pope.*

LI'BELEER. *n. f.* [from *libel*.] A defamer by writing; a lampooner.

Our common *libellers* are as free from the imputation of wit, as of morality. *Dryden's Juvenal.*

The squibs are those who, in the common phrase, are called *libellers* and lampooners. *Tatler.*

The common *libellers*, in their invectives, tax the church with an insatiable desire of power and wealth, equally common to all bodies of men. *Swift.*

LI'BELOUS. *n. f.* [from *libel*.] Defamatory.

It was the most malicious rumour that had ever been brewed, howsoever countenanced by a *libellous* pamphlet. *Watson.*

LI'BERAL. *adj.* [liberalis, Latin; liberal, French.]

1. Not mean; not low in birth; not low in mind.

2. Becoming a gentleman.

3. Munificent; generous; bountiful; not parcimonious.

Her name was Mercy, which was known over all

To be both gracious and cke *liberal*. *Spens. Fa. Queen.*

Sparing would shew a worse sin than ill doctrine.

Men of his way should be most *liberal*,

They're set here for examples. *Shakespeare's Henry VIII.*

Necess must the pow'r

That made us, and for us this ample world,

Be infinitely good, and of his good

As *liberal* and free, as infinite. *Milton.*

There is no art better than to be *liberal* of praise and commendation to others, in that wherein a man's self hath any perfection. *Bacon's Essay.*

The *liberal* are secure alone;

For what we frankly give, for ever is our own. *Granville.*

Several clergymen, otherwise little fond of obscure terms, are, in their sermons, very *liberal* of all those which they find in ecclesiastical writers, as if it were our duty to understand them. *Swift.*

LIBERALITY. *n. f.* [liberalitas, Latin; liberalité, Fr.] Munificence; bounty; generosity; generous provision.

Why should he despair, that knows to court

With words, fair looks, and *liberality*? *Shakespeare.*

Such moderation with thy bounty join,

That thou may'st nothing give that is not thine;

That *liberality* is but cast away,

Which makes us borrow what we cannot pay. *Dryden.*

LIBERALLY. *adv.* [from *liberal*.] Bountifully; bountifully; largely.

If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men *liberally*, and upbraideth not. *James i. 5.*

LI'BERTINE. *n. f.* [libertin, French.]

1. One unconfin'd; one at liberty.

When he speaks,

The air, a charter'd *libertine*, is still;

And the mute wonder lurketh in men's ears,

To steal his sweet and honied sentences. *Shakespeare's Hen. V.*

2. One who lives without restraint or law.

Man, the lawless *libertine*, may rove

Free and unquestion'd.

Want of power is the only bound that a *libertine* puts to his views upon any of the sex. *Rousse's Jene Shore.*

Want of power is the only bound that a *libertine* puts to his views upon any of the sex. *Clarendon.*

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2. One who pays no regard to the precepts of religion.

They say this town is full of couzenage,

As nimble jugglers, that deceive the eye;

Digested cheaters, prating mountebanks,

And many such like *libertines* of sin. *Shakespeare.*

That word may be applied to some few *libertines* in the audience. *Collier's View of the Stage.*

3. [In law; *libertinus*, Lat.] A freedman; or rather, the son of a freedman.

Some persons are forbidden to be accusers on the score of their sex, as women; others on the score of their age, as pupils and infants; others on the score of their conditions, as *libertines* against their patrons. *Ayliffe's Parergon.*

LI'BERTINE. *adj.* [libertin, French.] Licentious; irreligious.

There are men that marry not, but chuse rather a *libertine* and impure single life, than to be yoked in marriage. *Bacon.*

Might not the queen make diligent enquiry, if any person about her should happen to be of *libertine* principles or morals. *Swift's Project for Advancement of Religion.*

LI'BERTINISM. *n. f.* [from *libertine*.] Irreligion; licentiousness of opinions and practice.

That spirit of religion and seriousness vanished all at once, and a spirit of liberty and *libertinism*, of infidelity and profaneness, started up in the room of it. *Atterbury's Sermons.*

LI'BERTY. *n. f.* [liberté, French; libertas, Latin.]

1. Freedom, as opposed to slavery.

My master knows of your being here, and hath threatened to put me into everlasting *liberty*, if I tell you of it; for he swears, he'll turn me away. *Shakespeare.*

O *liberty*! thou goddess, heav'nly bright!

Profuse of blis, and pregnant with delight,

Eternal pleasures in thy presence reign. *Addison.*

2. Freedom, as opposed to necessity.

Liberty is the power in any agent to do, or forbear, any particular action, according to the determination, or thought of the mind, whereby either of them is preferred to the other. *Locke.*

As it is in the motions of the body, so it is in the thoughts of our minds: where any one is such, that we have power to take it up, or lay it by, according to the preference of the mind, there we are at *liberty*. *Locke.*

3. Privilege; exemption; immunity.

His majesty gave not an intire country to any, much less did he grant jura regalia, or any extraordinary *liberties*. *Davies.*

4. Relaxation of restraint.

5. Leave; permission.

I shall take the *liberty* to consider a third ground, which, with some men, has the same authority. *Locke.*

LI'BERDINOUS. *n. f.* [libidinifus, Latin.] Lewd; lustful.

None revolt from the faith; because they must not look upon a woman to lust after her, but because they are much more restrained from the perpetration of their lusts. If wanton glances and *liberious* thoughts had been permitted by the gospel, they would have apostatized nevertheless. *Bentley.*

LI'BERDINOUSLY. *adv.* [from *liberious*.] Lewdly; lustfully.

LI'BRAL. *adj.* [libralis, Latin.] Of a pound weight. *Dict.*

LI'BRARIAN. *n. f.* [librarius, Latin.]

1. One who has the care of a library;

2. One who transcribes or copies books.

Charybdis thrice swallows, and thrice refunds, the waves: this must be understood of regular tides. There are indeed but two tides in a day, but this is the error of the *librarians*. *Broom's Notes on the Odyssey.*

LI'BRARY. *n. f.* [librerie, Fr.] A large collection of books, publick or private.

Then as they 'gan his *library* to view,

And antique registers for to avise,

There chanced to the prince's hand to rise

An ancient book, high Briton's monuments. *Fa. Qu.*

Make choice of all my *library*,

And so beguile thy sorrow. *Shakespeare's Titus Andronicus.*

I have given you the *library* of a painter, and a catalogue of such books as he ought to read. *Dryden's Dufresnoy.*

To LI'BRATE. *v. a.* [libro, Latin.] To poise; to balance; to hold in equipoise.

LI'BRATION. *n. f.* [libratio, Latin; libration, French.]

1. The state of being balanced.

This is what may be said of the balance, and the *libration*, of the body. *Dryden's Dufresnoy.*

Their plinions still

In loose *librations* stretch'd, to trust the void

Trembling refuse. *Thomson's Spring.*

2. [In astronomy.]

Libration is the balancing motion or trepidation in the firmament, whereby the declination of the sun, and the latitude of the stars, change from time to time. Astronomers likewise ascribe to the moon a *libratory* motion, or motion of trepidation, which they pretend is from east to west, and from north to south, because that, at full moon, they sometimes discover parts of her disk which are not discovered at

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other times. These kinds are called, the one a *libration* in longitude, and the other a *libration* in latitude. Besides this, there is a third kind, which they call an apparent *libration*, and which consists in this, that when the moon is at her greatest elongation from the south, her axis being then almost perpendicular to the plane of the ecliptick, the sun must enlighten towards the north pole of the moon some parts which he did not before, and that, on the contrary, some parts of those which he enlightened towards the opposite pole are obscured; and this produces the same effect which the *libration* in latitude does. *Dict. Trav.*

Those planets which move upon their axis, do not all make intire revolutions; for the moon maketh only a kind of *libration*, or a reciprocated motion on her own axis. *Grew.*

LI'BRATORY. *adj.* [from *libro*, Lat.] Balancing; playing like a balance.

LICE, the plural of *loise*.

Red blisters rising on their paps appear,

And flaming carbuncles, and noisome sweat,

And clammy dews, that loathsome *lice* beget;

Till the slow creeping evil eats his way. *Dryden's Virg.*

LI'CEBANE. *n. f.* [lice and bane.] A plant.

LICENCE. *n. f.* [licentia, Latin; licence, French.]

1. Exorbitant liberty; contempt of legal and necessary restraint.

Some of the wiser seeing that a popular *licence* is indeed the many-headed tyranny, prevailed with the rest to make *Mufidorus* their chief. *Sidney.*

Taunt my faults

With such full *licence*, as both truth and malice

Have power to utter. *Shakespeare's Ant. and Cleopatra.*

They baul for freedom in their senseless moods,

And still revolt when truth would set them free;

Licence they mean, when they cry liberty. *Milton.*

The privilege that ancient poets claim,

Now turn'd to *licence* by too just a name. *Rescramon.*

Though this be a state of liberty, yet it is not a state of *licence*; though man, in that state, have an uncontrollable liberty to dispose of his person or possessions, yet he has not liberty to destroy himself.

2. A grant of permission. *Locke.*

They sent some to bring them a *licence* from the senate. *Judith xi. 14.*